

S/N To be assigned

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KILKKILÄ Serial No.: To be assigned
Filed: 10/11/01 Docket No.: 602.352USW1
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SELECTING A PASSWORD ENCRYPTED
WITH A CORRECT SOFTWARE VERSION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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By: 
Name: Kari Arnold

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment into the above-referenced application.

ABSTRACT

Please insert the attached abstract into the application as the last page thereof.

CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-6 as follows. A clean copy of the amended and new claims is included below. A marked up copy of the entire claim set is included in Appendix A.

1. (Amended) Method for selecting a password encrypted with a correct software version in a telecommunication system comprising:

a source system;

a target system;

an operation and maintenance network established between the source and the target systems; and

an operation and maintenance center connected to the operation and maintenance network,

said method comprising the steps of:

logging on in the source system by supplying a user identification and a valid password corresponding to it,

setting up a remote session connection via the operation and maintenance center to the target system,

checking the password for correctness in the source and/or target system by comparing the password with a password stored in the source and/or target system, corresponding to the user identification.

wherein the method comprises the steps of:

comparing the password encryption software versions in the target system and in the source system with each other; and, if the password encryption software versions in the source and target systems differ from each other;

sending a password associated with the user identification in question and encrypted with an earlier password encryption software version to the target system.

2 (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein the password encryption software versions are compared in the source and/or target system.

3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein passwords associated with different password encryption software versions are stored in a certain predetermined space in the source and/or target system.

4. (Amended) System for selecting a password encrypted with a correct software version in a telecommunication system comprising:

a source system;

a target system;

an operation and maintenance network established between the source and the target systems; and

an operation and maintenance center connected to the operation and maintenance network, in which system:

log-on in the source system is accomplished by supplying a user identification and a valid password corresponding to it,

a remote session connection is set up via the operation and maintenance center to the target system,

the password is checked for correctness in the source and/or target system by comparing the password with a password stored in the source and/or target system, corresponding to the user identification,

wherein the system comprises:

means (1) for comparing the password encryption software versions with each other; and

means (2) for sending to the target system a password consistent with the software version used in the target system, associated with the user identification in question.

5. (Amended) System as defined in claim 4, wherein the system comprises means (3) for storing in a certain predetermined space the passwords associated with different versions of password encryption software of the source and/or target system and belonging to user identification codes.

6. (Amended) System as defined in claim 4, wherein the source and/or target system is a telephone exchange system.

REMARKS

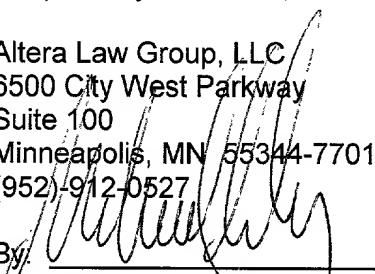
The above preliminary amendment is made to insert an abstract page into the application, to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3 and 6, and to put the claims in U.S. format.

Applicant respectfully requests that this preliminary amendment be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at 952-912-0527.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 11 October 2001

Appendix A
Marked Up Version of Entire Claim Set

1. (Amended) Method for selecting a password encrypted with a correct software version in a telecommunication system comprising:

 a source system [(LE1)];

 a target system [(LE2)];

 an operation and maintenance network [(OM)] established between the source and the target systems; and

 an operation and maintenance center [(OMC)] connected to the operation and maintenance network [(OM)],

said method comprising the steps of:

 logging on in the source system [(LE1)] by supplying a user identification and a valid password corresponding to it,

 setting up a remote session connection via the operation and maintenance center [(OMC)] to the target system [(LE2)],

 checking the password for correctness in the source and/or target system [(LE1, LE2)] by comparing the password with a password stored in the source and/or target system [(LE1, LE2)], corresponding to the user identification.

[characterized in that] wherein the method comprises the steps of:

 comparing the password encryption software versions in the target system [(LE2)] and in the source system [(LE1)] with each other; and, if the password encryption software versions in the source and target systems differ from each other;

 sending a password associated with the user identification in question and encrypted with an earlier password encryption software version to the target system [(LE2)].

2 (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, [characterized in that]
[wherein the password encryption software versions are compared in the source and/or target
system [(LE1, LE2)].

3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1 [or 2], [characterized in that]
[wherein passwords associated with different password encryption software versions are stored
in a certain predetermined space in the source and/or target system [(LE1, LE2)].

4. (Amended) System for selecting a password encrypted with a correct software
version in a telecommunication system comprising:

a source system [(LE1)];

a target system [(LE2)];

an operation and maintenance network [(OM)] established between the source and the
target systems [(LE1, LE2)]; and

an operation and maintenance center [(OMC)] connected to the operation and
maintenance network [(OM)], in which system:

log-on in the source system [(LE1)] is accomplished by supplying a user identification
and a valid password corresponding to it,

a remote session connection is set up via the operation and maintenance center
[(OMC)] to the target system [(LE2)],

the password is checked for correctness in the source and/or target system [(LE1, LE2)]
by comparing the password with a password stored in the source and/or target system
[(LE1, LE2)], corresponding to the user identification,

[characterized in that] [wherein the system comprises:

means (1) for comparing the password encryption software versions with each other; and
means (2) for sending to the target system [(LE2)] a password consistent with the
software version used in the target system [(LE2)], associated with the user identification
in question.

5. (Amended) System as defined in claim 4, [characterized in that]
[wherein the system comprises means (3) for storing in a certain predetermined space the
passwords associated with different versions of password encryption software of the
source and/or target system [(LE1, LE2)] and belonging to user identification codes.

6. (Amended) System as defined in claim 4 [or 5], [characterized in that]
[wherein the source and/or target system [(LE1, LE2)] is a telephone exchange system.